CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

CD/1405
17 June 1996

ENGLISH
Original: SPANISH

NOTE VERBALE DATED 14 JUNE 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF CHILE ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARIAT OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT TRANSMITTING A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF CHILE ON THE OCCASION OF THE DETONATION OF A FURTHER NUCLEAR DEVICE BY THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON 8 JUNE 1996

The Permanent Mission of Chile to the Conference on Disarmament presents its compliments to the secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament and has the honour to attach, for distribution as an official document of the Conference, a copy of the official statement issued by the Government of Chile on the occasion of the detonation of a further nuclear device by the People's Republic of China on 8 June 1996.

Official communiqué

The Government of Chile expresses its most forceful rejection of the detonation of a further nuclear device by the People's Republic of China on 8 June 1996.

At the same time, it has taken note with the greatest concern of the Chinese Government's announcement that it plans to conduct another explosion before September 1996, after which date it would apply a moratorium on nuclear testing.

The Government of Chile reiterates that these tests constitute a challenge to the non-proliferation principles and objectives proclaimed by the international community - China included - when agreeing to the extension of the Non-Proliferation Treaty, as well as those underpinning the negotiations on the comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty (CTBT) which are taking place in Geneva.

Chile maintains a consistent and resolute policy of rejecting tests that not only run counter to the sensitivities and hopes of international public opinion, which aspires to a total ban on nuclear weapons, but also create risks for the environment, health and global security which cannot be underestimated.

Consequently, in a spirit of friendship, the Government of Chile calls on the People's Republic of China to renounce the holding of these tests and to put into effect, here and now, the universal moratorium which it declares it is willing to implement in September.

Santiago, 10 June 1996

CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

CD/1406
17 June 1996

Original: ENGLISH

Decision on Expansion of Membership of the Conference

(Adopted at the 739th plenary meeting on 17 June 1996)

The Conference on Disarmament decides, in implementation of its decision CD/1356 of 21 September 1995, to admit Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Finland, Iraq, Israel, New Zealand, Norway, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Ukraine, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe as members of the Conference on Disarmament on 17 June 1996.

GE.96-62215 (E)

CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

CD/1407
17 June 1996

Original: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 12 JUNE 1996 ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES OF AUSTRIA, BANGLADESH, BELARUS, CAMEROON, CHILE, COLOMBIA, DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA, FINLAND, IRAQ, ISRAEL NORWAY, NEW ZEALAND, REPUBLIC OF KOREA, SENEGAL, SLOVAKIA, SOUTH AFRICA, SPAIN, SWITZERLAND, SYRIA, TURKEY, UKRAINE, VIET NAM AND ZIMBABWE

We should like to place on record our countries' sincere appreciation for your efforts to find a solution to the urgent question of expansion of membership of the Conference on Disarmament and to set forth the commitments that Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Finland, Iraq, Israel, New Zealand, Norway, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Spain, Slovakia, South Africa, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Ukraine, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe have decided to make in consideration of the anticipated decision of the Conference on Disarmament to admit the above States as members of the Conference.

The above-mentioned States therefore and hereby make the following solemn commitment legally binding upon each individually.

In an integral and indivisible connection with the anticipated decision of the Conference on Disarmament, and notwithstanding Rule 3 of the kules of Procedure, and without affecting the rights which they currently enjoy, each of the above-mentioned States, in the exercise of its national sovereignty, will not individually obstruct any action of the Conference pursuant to Rule 18.

This commitment shall cease to apply if there is a consensus decision in the Conference on Disarmament that the circumstance which had given rise to the situation requiring this solemn commitment no longer exists. In addition, for any State of the above-mentioned States not subject to comprehensive enforcement measures under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter, on a date two years from the date of the decision, this commitment shall cease to apply with respect to such States as of that date.

In our new capacity as members of the Conference on Disarmament, please be assured, Mr. President, of our highest consideration.

Austria | Bangladesh | Belarus

Cameroon | Chile | Colombia

Democratic People's Republic of Korea | Finland | Iraq

Israel | Norway | New Zealand

Republic of Korea | Senegal | Slovakia

South Africa | Spain | Switzerland

Syria | Turkey | Ukraine

Vietnam | Zimbabwe

CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

CD/1408
26 June 1996

Original: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 20 JUNE 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF SRI LANKA ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT CONCERNING THE LETTER OF 12 JUNE 1996 (CD/1407) ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONFERENCE BY THE 23 NEW MEMBERS ADMITTED TO THE CONFERENCE ON 17 JUNE 1996 BY ITS DECISION CD/1406

The delegation of Sri Lanka wishes to refer to letter dated 12 June 1996 (CD/1407 of 17 June) addressed to the President of the Conference on Disarmament by the 23 new members who were admitted to the Conference on 17 June 1996 by its decision contained in document CD/1406 of same date.

In this regard the delegation of Sri Lanka wishes to express its position as follows:

(a) Sri Lanka was among the majority of the members of the CD who supported the immediate and unconditional admission to the Conference, of the 23 States listed by the Special Coordinator of the Conference on Disarmament for the Issue of Expansion of its Membership contained in document CD/1214 dated 13 August 1993.

(b) The Decision CD/1406 was taken by the Conference on Disarmament by consensus on 17 June 1996 with no conditionality attached to the admission of new members by the Conference.

(c) The letter contained in document CD/1407 of 17 June 1996 has been submitted to the President of the Conference on Disarmament jointly by the new members voluntarily, in the exercise of their sovereign rights.

(d) The contents of the said letter in no way prevent the newly admitted members from exercising their rights as full and equal members of the Conference on Disarmament.

(e) The contents of the said letter do not constitute a precedent restricting the rights of Member States of the United Nations in seeking admission to the Conference on Disarmament or any other multilateral organization.

The delegation of Sri Lanka would appreciate it if this letter is circulated as an official document of the Conference on Disarmament.

(Signed): B.A.B. Goonetilleke
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

GE.96-62382 (E)

CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

CD/1409
27 June 1996

ENGLISH
Original: SPANISH

NOTE VERBALE DATED 26 JUNE 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF ARGENTINA ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARIAT OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT TRANSMITTING A STATEMENT MADE BY THE GOVERNMENT OF ARGENTINA CONCERNING THE NUCLEAR TEST CARRIED OUT BY THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON 8 JUNE 1996

The Permanent Mission of the Argentine Republic to the international organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament and has the honour to request that the following statement should be distributed as an official document of the Conference on Disarmament.

"The Argentine Republic deplores the nuclear test carried out by the People's Republic of China on 8 June 1996, taking place as it did at a decisive moment in the negotiation of the comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty, which is considered to be a priority of the international community.

"Nevertheless, it highlights the position recently set out in the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva by the People's Republic of China to the effect that it no longer insists on the conduct of peaceful nuclear explosions.

"The Argentine Republic renews its appeal to the Government of the People's Republic of China to reconsider its decision to continue with the nuclear tests in question and to observe a moratorium in this regard, since these tests are not conducive to the strengthening of the non-proliferation regime and hence to international peace and security.

Buenos Aires, 11 June 1996."